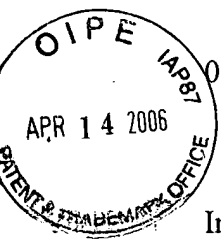


IFW 2646



03500.015872.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: J. Harold
TOMOYUKI TAKEDA, et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 2646
Application No.: 09/977,317)
: Filed: October 16, 2001)
: For: APPARATUS WITH)
COMMUNICATION)
FUNCTION, METHOD OF)
CONTROLLING)
APPARATUS, AND)
STORAGE MEDIUM)
STORING PROGRAM FOR)
CONTROLLING APPARATUS : April 11, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
AND
THIRD REQUEST TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF PRIORITY DOCUMENTS

Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action dated January 11, 2006.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 9 and 11 to 13 are in the application, and these claims were all rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent 6,895,220 (Usui). The rejection is respectfully traversed, for the reason that Usui is not prior art to the subject application.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

April 11, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Michael K. O'Neill, Reg. No. 32,622
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)


Signature

April 11, 2006
Date of Signature